

Belle Plaine, Iowa  
July 18, 2018

A meeting of the Belle Plaine Community School District Board of Education was held on Wednesday, July 18, 2018 at 6:45 p.m. in the board room at Longfellow Elementary, Belle Plaine.

Members Present: Marie Stratford, Mike Bachelder, Rima Johnson  
Val Coffman

Members Absent: Brad Cook

Administration Present: Chad Straight, Todd Werner, Heather Coover

Board Secretary Present: Stacey Kolars

Visitors Present: Interested Patrons

Press Representative: None

The meeting was called to order by President Stratford at 6:45 p.m.

#### **AGENDA**

Motion Johnson, second Coffman to approve the agenda with the exception of changing Business Item number five to include board policies 501.9-Excused Absences and 501.10-Truancy-Unexcused Absences. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

#### **DELEGATIONS**

There were no delegations.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

The consent agenda items were considered. There was motion by Bachelder second by Johnson to approve the consent agenda items. All voted, "aye." Motion carried. The consent agenda items that were approved are listed below:

1. Approval of the minutes of the June 20, 2018 meeting.
2. Approval of bills, payroll, financial statements.
3. Personnel/Business Items:
  - a. Acceptance of the resignation of Mark Tegeler from JH basketball
  - b. Approval of the monthly transfer of the food service payroll for the 2018-2019 year.

**PRINCIPAL REPORTS**-Secondary Principal, Todd Werner and Elementary Principal, Heather Coover gave reports to the board on the following topics:

- SAI Conference on August 8 and 9
- Summer work at both buildings continues to progress. Special thanks to the custodial and maintenance staff.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Superintendent Straight informed the board that the district recently upgraded the Wifi speeds through Windstream.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Mr. Larry Schlue delivered a check to business manager, Stacey Kolars in the amount of \$100,000 on behalf of the Mansfield Charitable Foundation for the 2018-2019 STEM Program. A thank you letter was sent on behalf of the board and the administration.

### **BUSINESS ITEMS**

1. Approval of the Employment of Personnel:

There was motion by Bachelder, second by Johnson to approve the employment of the following personnel:

- Scott Niles-PE Teacher/Health Teacher
- Kacee Adams-Teacher Associate
- Colleen Balvin-Transfer request to 7.5 hour associate position from 7 hour associate position
- Cathy Kowalski-Transfer request to 7.5 hour association position from 7 hour associate position
- Julie Mantz-Assistant Volleyball Coach

All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

2. Action/Discussion on Late Open Enrollment Request-

Superintendent Straight informed the board that a late open enrollment request had been received from Monica Becker for her three children to attend Benton Community School District for the 2018-2019. Superintendent Straight recommended the board deny Ms. Becker's request stating that paperwork for open enrollment was due March 1. Superintendent Straight also stated that

approving late open enrollment requests does not set a good precedent for dealing with them in the future, and that there is no legitimate reason to approve this request other than preference. Superintendent Straight went on to say that Ms. Becker does have a kindergarten student that she can open enroll for the 2018-2019 year to Benton Community if she would like. The date for enrollment requests for kindergartners is September 1. After discussion, there was motion by Bachelder, second by Johnson to deny Ms. Becker's late open enrollment requests for her 4<sup>th</sup> grade and 6<sup>th</sup> grade children, but to approve her open enrollment request for her kindergartner. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

3. Appointment of Belle Plaine Board of Education Secretary and Treasurer for the 2018-2019 Year-

There was motion by Bachelder, second by Johnson to approve Superintendent Straight's recommendation to approve Stacey Kolars as the Belle Plaine Board of Education Secretary and Treasurer for the 2018-2019 year. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

4. Provisions of Bonds for the Belle Plaine Board Secretary and Treasurer-

Superintendent Straight recommended the board accept the employee blanket bond as sufficient bond for the board secretary and treasurer. There was motion by Johnson, second by Bachelder to approve Superintendent Straight's recommendation for the 2018-2019 year. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

5. Action/Discussion on First Reading of Board Policy 501.9 and Board Policy 501.10-

Superintendent Straight presented board policy 501.9-Excused Absences and board policy 501.10-Truancy-Unexcused Absences to the board with proposed language for both policies to mesh with the student handbooks and with current law. Discussion took place regarding adjustments to the policy language. There was motion by Bachelder, second by Coffman to approve the first readings of board policy 501.9 and 501.10 with the discussed adjustments to the policy language. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

6. Action/Discussion Regarding Changes in 2018-2019 Secondary School Handbook and Elementary School Handbook-

Principal Werner and Principal Coover presented the secondary and elementary handbooks for the 2018-2019 year to the board with their proposed changes and revisions. After the board's review, there was motion by Bachelder, second by Johnson to approve the 2018-2019 secondary and elementary handbooks with revisions and the addition of language to adhere to board policies 501.9 and 501.10. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

7. Action/Discussion Regarding Establishment of School Depositories and Maximum Deposit Amounts-

Superintendent Straight explained to the board that school districts are to establish school district depositories and maximum deposit amounts for the school district each year. Superintendent Straight recommended the following depositories and deposit amounts for the 2018-2019 year below:

Chelsea Savings Bank	any school funds	\$4.5 million
Midwestone Bank	any school funds	\$5.5 million
Bankers Trust	any school funds	\$4.0 million

There was motion by Coffman, second by Bachelder to approve Superintendent Straight's recommendation for the district's depositories and deposit amounts for the 2018-2019 year. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

8. Action/Discussion on Class Sizes at the Elementary-

Superintendent Straight and Principal Coover presented class size information to the board for the 2018-2019 school year as follows:

- Prep-Kindergarten: 6 (possibly more)
- Kindergarten: 30 students
- First Grade: 40 students
- Second Grade: 40 students
- Third Grade: 35 students
- Fourth Grade: 32 students
- Fifth Grade: 28 students
- Sixth Grade: 35 students

Principal Coover stated that all grades have two sections with the exception of Prep-Kindergarten. There was motion by Johnson, second by Coffman to approve the class sizes at the elementary levels for the 2018-2019 school year. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

9. Action/Discussion of Renewal of Specialty Underwriters Policy Renewals-  
A quote from Specialty Underwriters was presented to the board for review. Superintendent Straight explained that this policy's premium would be paid for out of the management fund, with claim reimbursements able to be put back into the general fund. Superintendent Straight recommended the board approve this policy. After brief discussion took place, there was motion by Bachelder second by Coffman to approve this policy for the 2018-2019 year. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

10. Action/Discussion on Sick Leave Bank for Noncertified Staff-  
Superintendent Straight recommended the district offer a sick leave bank for noncertified staff using the same language and guidelines as the certified group for the 2018-2019 school year. After brief discussion took place, there was motion by Coffman, second by Bachelder to approve the sick leave bank for noncertified staff members for the 2018-2019 year with the same language and guidelines as the one established for the certified staff. This would be reviewed after one year. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

There was motion by Bachelder, second by Johnson to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. All voted, "aye." Motion carried.

Marie Stratford  
President

Stacey Kolars  
Board Secretary